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A
LETTER of THANKS

From the

Famous Peer - making
PROJECTOR

In the Late Reign ;

TO THE

Author of the *Thoughts on
the Peerage Bill, &c.*

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LETTER of THANKS,

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S I R,



HO' I must confess, it is my
 unhappy Fate, that none of
 my Friends can really serve
 me, without seeming first to
 disserve me ; and while they rail at me,
 they prepare the People to receive what
 they

they insinuate in my Favour : Whose
 Invectives were so bitter against me as
W——e's, and yet, who has done
 me such signal Services ? I may say
 the same of all those, who had struck
 a Bargain with me, and promis'd, up-
 on certain Terms, to come into my
 Measures.

Were I not convinc'd, your Pamphlet
 has done me real Service, I shou'd have
 resent'd your hard Words, when you
 say, *The Grand Criminal sits triumphant,*
glories in his Wickedness, and carries off
the Price of it. — Even that daring
Minister durst not have ventur'd upon
such an Act (viz. The Advising the
making of Twelve Peers at once) if
he had not had a House of Commons
to support him, and hoped to cover all his
Crimes in a Revolution.

As severe as this seems to be, yet
 since you find it necessary to my De-
 fence, I not only forgive you, but shall,
 for the future, esteem you among my
 particular Friends.

I was censur'd for making of Twelve Peers on two Accounts.

I. That this did, at one fatal Blow, destroy the Freedom, and Independency of the *House of Lords*; and consequently, tended to subvert the Constitution.

II. That it skreen'd the Grand Criminal in all his Villainous Attempts.

Now you are so far from Supposing me Criminal in the first Account, that you maintain it as an Essential Prerogative of the Crown, to have a Discretionary Power, to over-rule, as often as it thinks fit, the Votes of the *House of Lords*, by Adding an unlimited Number; and that the Taking away this Power from the Crown, wou'd be fatal to the Monarchy, and Liberties of the People, and make our Government *Aristocratical*; and 'tis wholly on this Foundation (that you so violently oppose the *Peerage Bill*) so that your Pamphlet, if it had its proper Title, ought to be call'd *An Apology for the Grand Criminal*.

Criminal; who you must own, if he thought there were any Combinations in the House of Lords, that might this way be prevented, did nothing but his Duty in Advising it.

If, as you contend, an Unaccountable Power in the House of Lords is *truly dreadful*; and that *'tis safer to trust the Crown with an unlimited Power, to make what Creations it pleases, tho' to serve the vilest Purposes*. Can I, dear Sir, receive from you a greater *Encomium*, since I was the first daring Minister, that even advised the putting this unlimited Power in the Crown in Execution; and truly, as you suppose, I had wanted Courage to have ventur'd on such an Act, had not I hop'd to have cover'd my Crimes in a Revolution.

I take it as you mean it, when you complain I was not punish'd, since it had been very wrong to have punish'd me, and not have prevented others from Acting like me for the future; which nothing but passing the *Peerage Bill* can effectually do: And I may venture to say, that those, who are for the Bill, were

were not the Men who prevented my being punish'd.

'Tis very Artfully done to ridicule the Mischiefs, which flow from this Precedent I have set you, by your saying the *Old Whig* (who has pretended to shew the fatal Consequences of it) is of the Opinion of our Law Books, *That the Crown is always in its Infancy; and therefore, it is proper to take away from it all Knives, Scissars, &c.* by which it might cut its Fingers.

Your Brother Author, the *Plebeian*, is as tender of my Reputation as you yourself can be, and very much softens the Matter, when he says,
 * "The making a great Number of
 " Lords on a sudden has one Inconve-
 " nience, it may prevent some Good
 " to the Publick, but can do no great
 " Hurt; and is more grievous in its
 " Consequences to the Crown than the
 " People.

You tell me, that I expect once more to give Laws to this Kingdom;
 B but

but I can assure you, not without your Assistance in removing the present Ministry; and for that Reason, I think my self infinitely oblig'd to you for taking all Opportunities of Reviling them; and not only pelting them with Ironical Commendations (the severest way of Satyr) in your Pamphlets; but shewing yourself so eager to attack them, that you can't forbear it in your Title Pages. What can shew a more hearty Aversion, or a more laudable Rage against them, than your very Motto's before the Reflections on the *Old Whig*.

*The Ills that I have done cannot be safe,
But by attempting greater; and I find
A Spirit within me chides my sluggish Hands,
And says, Go on.*

Flectere si nequeo Superos, Acheronta movebo.

After this, Unreasonable People wou'd have expected, you shou'd have prov'd
them

them guilty of some notorious ill Facts, exceeding every Thing, which cou'd have been charg'd on the Grand Criminal himself ; and yet you have been so much my Friend, not to object any Thing to them ; except that they are endeavouring to prevent others from being able, like me, to throw two Files into the *House of Lords* at once.

There are, indeed, some odd, and obsolete Maxims, still us'd among the *Whigs*, who are wont to say, *That* Railing at one's Inferiors, without Assigning any Reason for it, is, what no Gentleman wou'd be guilty of ; and that it shew'd an impotent Malice to do it with relation to Superiors ; especially such as are in the Administration, and thereby Weakening the Government, which must act by them ; This is what, they say, has made the Apostate *Whigs* so detestable, in pretending they threw up their Places, because they wou'd not come into that Dirty-Work, the present Ministry had oblig'd themselves to go thorow with ; tho' they have not, from that Time to this,

been able to give one single Instance of their being engag'd in any such dirty Work.

But, I assure you, not only I, but all our Friends, do most heartily approve your Conduct ; and think, since there's no Living without Railing at the Ministry, it's the safest Way to do it in Generals ; and that our Glorious Champion, the *Examiner*, always us'd it against the *Whigs* with good Success.

If you observe too, the Art of it lyes here, when a *Whig* rails at a *Tory* Ministry, that only serves to make him the more esteem'd by his own Side ; and to conclude he has merited very well of them, to be thus rail'd at by the adverse Party ; but if a *Whig* rails against a *Whig* Ministry, tho' he instances in no particular Facts, there are many suspicious and jealous Persons among them, who will be apt to imagine, there is something extraordinary, when they see a *Whig* so zealous to give a Lift to the Leading Men of his own Side, tho' to the Hazard of bringing into Play the other Party ; but they who reason thus,
under-

understand nothing of human Nature, nor with what Violence Men's Passions work.

I am sure, I have very good Reason to know that those four *Whigs*, who were continually railing at the Queen's first Ministry, contributed more to the Removing of them, and bringing in the last Sett, than any Thing that ten Times the Number of *Tories* cou'd do.

Tho' I cou'd wish you had objected some Faults to the Ministers, when you rail; because some thinking, and inquisitive People might fear you want Materials; yet it shews your more particular Attachment to our Cause, when you so boldly enterprize all this at your own Expence; this Way of throwing Scandal in General, may in time make them Odious to the Nation, and thereby hinder them from being able to serve their King and Country, and to force the Management of Affairs into our Hands.

Tho' Parties have been often chang'd, yet it has only been from this Sett of
Whigs

Whigs to that of *Tories*, and so back again. If your Satyr prevails, the *Tories* will come into Play ; and who then more likely to be their Head, than he, who was so before ; and whose Conduct has been so universally approv'd by them ? You, I do not doubt, when there's any Prospect of this kind, will deal with me, as you have done with the Precedent I made, rail at it, and yet be for it. But however, I hold myself infinitely oblig'd to you, for Approving yourself so remarkably an Enemy to the Men, who have broken all my Measures, and defeated my well-grounded Hopes.

Give me Leave to tell you in Confidence, that I hoped, when the Forces were disbanded, in Order to ease the Country, that an Invasion might have been attempted, with a Prospect of good Success ; but then, alas ! I found, that tho' the Government was thus in a Manner disarm'd, such Alliances had been form'd, as made the Neighbouring States zealous, who shou'd be most forward, to offer their Forces for the Security of the present Establishment : And we were concern'd, and own'd our Concern in a cer-

certain great Assembly, to see the next *Popish* Heir brought into the *Grand Alliance* for the Security of the *Protestant Succession*.

At this Time too, a Mine was to be sprung in *France*, which wou'd not only have overturn'd ev'ry Thing there, but giv'n an Opportunity and Means of doing the same here ; yet this was prevented by the rash Advice of these very Ministers, and an Unexpected Blow struck in the *Mediterranean*, which dash'd to pieces all our Hopes.

After this, they daringly went on to put the Debts of the Nation in so good a Method of being paid off, and made such Provision for it, as nothing but the great and unforeseen Expence which we have occasioned, cou'd obstruct it ; and I am afraid our own Friends, whose great Grievances are the heavy Taxes, will see in a short Time, that they themselves occasion those extraordinary Taxes they so heavily complain of.

I was in Hopes, that the Dissenters, once my good Friends, (now my mortal

tal Enemies,) wou'd have been so discontented at lying thus long under these Hardships, and which were brought on them chiefly by my Contrivance, that they wou'd at least become Neuters; and then the rest of the *Whigs* wou'd be more easily dealt with; but I found myself Disappointed here too, and was surpriz'd to see in how little Time all these great Things were brought about.

I am afraid, that when Men have been sufficiently try'd, and found above Bribery and Corruption, that will discourage Persons of any Figure from taking up Arms, how well soever they may wish to a Cause, or favour an Invasion.

In a Word, they have manag'd Things after such a Manner, that 'tis impossible to rail with any Success, but in general Terms; and this, my good Friend, sinks my Spirits to that degree, that I am forced to drink two Bottles ev'ry Night more than ordinary to raise them.

I am afraid I shou'd dispose of myself as that great Politician *Achitophel* did, was it not for the Conduct of the *Whigs*; who, tho' they pretend, that they have the best Cause, and the best King; and that the National Liberties and Religion can only be safe under their Management, yet are (so happily for us) enslav'd by their Passions, that I am in Hopes they will sacrifice every Thing to them; thank Heaven by that Means they are become a Rope of Sand, which can't hold together a Moment; and this *Peerage Bill* is likely to create a new Faction among them, as little to be piec'd up as any of the old Ones; so that if we lye still, they will do our Business: This was one Reason why I left them. Let me for once express myself in the Poetical Language,

— *A moody murmuring Race,*

Who've try'd th' Extent, & utmost Stretch of
(*Grace* ;

A pamper'd People, whom, debauch'd with Ease,

No King can govern, and no God can please.
C Of

Of all *Whigs* recommend me most to those, who go under the Name of *Over-righteous Whigs*, who, whatever Liberties they take themselves, yet expect that Others, particularly Those in Great Posts, shou'd act as if they were in *Republica Platonica*, and not in *Face Romuli*, and will make no Allowance for the Hurry they are perpetually in, upon Account of the Multiplicity of Affairs; but rail as much at small Faults as at the greatest, as tho' there was no Difference in Crimes; or that he who committed one Sin, committed all; which is making a *Panegyrick* on the worst, and Libelling the best, who are not without their Faults, in making them equally criminal; those *Whigs*, how useful they may be to our Party, are so far from being capable to serve their own Side, that they are the worst Enemies they can have; especially, if they can't forbear railing at them, when the Nation is under an Apprehension of an *Invasion*; nay, ridicule *That*, and *Them* together.

I have one Thing further to observe, and 'tis such a Weakness, that alone wou'd ruin the *Whigs*; they say, the
Court

Court is now in the Interest of the People ; that the Ministers in the main design well ; that their Disgrace would throw the Court into our Hands ; and yet many of them oppose every Thing propos'd by them, tho' ever so beneficial, and are afraid to strengthen those Hands, which they know, can alone support them ; this Amazing Infatuation is a most comfortable Reflection.

No Change seems to me more surprising, than that so many *Whigs* shou'd, of a sudden, become *High Prerogative Men*, contrary to their standing Maxim, that *The People gain what the Crown loses*. 'Tis to be hop'd, these *Prerogative Whigs* will not be satisfy'd with having but one of the Houses in the Power of the Crown ; but gloriously go on, and for the Good of the Nation, make it absolute over both.

Suffer not your Sett of fullen *Whigs* to degenerate, keep them up to that Principle (which they have suck'd in with their Mothers Milk) of Opposing all Ministers whatever ; and you may be sure we shall not *now* differ with them as to this Point. Well

Well then, Courage, Sir, Now is your proper Time ; Now, when the Nation is in the Difficulties of a War ; when the People are possess'd in our Favour, thro' the indefatigable Labours of the discontented *Whigs*, and *High Church* Clergy ; Now, when an Invasion of *Great Britain* is intended, and the Enemy's Fleet actually sailing from *Spain*, to make a Descent upon us ; Now is your *Crisis* to attack the Ministry, by adding Pamphlet to Pamphlet ; and tho' you are the Labourer, who came in at the Latter End of the Day, you deserve your full Hire : And, if the Person, call'd the *Pretender*, finds the Doors of the House of Lords open, you will certainly merit Advancement among the first of his Friends.

I am, with the greatest Sincerity,

S I R,

Your most, &c.







